

ENGAGING YOUTH IN SERVICE

A RESOURCE NEWSLETTER TO UTAH VOLUNTEER CENTERS

FEBRUARY 2004

Youth Volunteer Recognition

- * Recognition helps youth to feel good about what they have done
- * When youth feel good about their involvement they are more likely to stay motivated and involved
- * Recognizing youth allows them to strengthen their self-esteem
- * Recognition provides closure for projects

Adapted from *Hit a Grand Slam with Recognition*, by Katie Hinckley, 2002-2003
Utah YES Ambassador

YOUTH SERVICE UTAH AWARD

Announcing a great opportunity to honor Utah youth for outstanding volunteer service!

Youth Service Utah awards honor youth who have performed outstanding service in their communities and are making a positive impact in their local areas.

Award categories include

- Individual youth, ages 14 and younger
- Individual youth, ages 15-18
- Youth group

Individuals and groups nominated should demonstrate a lasting commitment to service and volunteerism in their community. Qualifications that will be considered include impact, ongoing involvement, connection building, innovation and meeting community needs.

Nomination forms are available online at volunteers.utah.gov/youthservicentah.html

Nominations must be received by March 1, 2004.

Awards will be presented at the 2004 Utah Conference on Service on April 7, 2004.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristi Tanner at (801)-764-0704 or 1-888-755-Utah (8824), or by email at yes@utahspromise.org

Thank you for your assistance in recognizing Utah's outstanding youth volunteers!

INFORMAL RECOGNITION IDEAS

- o Smile
- o Be pleasant
- o Volunteers wall-of-fame
- o Just say it-Thank You
- o Give the person a special treat
- o Listen to the volunteer and their ideas
- o Send a personal note
- o Honor their preferences
- o Send holiday cards
- o Take time to talk
- o Keep challenging them
- o Provide volunteers with leadership opportunities
- o Accept their individuality
- o Carefully match volunteers with jobs
- o Take a personal interest in the volunteer
- o Greet them by their name
- o Recognize personal needs

To find out how to recognize youth volunteers in your area, contact Utah's YES Ambassador, Kristi Tanner, today!

This newsletter is published by the Utah Commission on Volunteers.

Individuals who receive it are invited to share the newsletter with others who are interested in youth service and volunteerism in Utah.

For more information contact Kristi at (888)755-UTAH or yes@utahspromise.org.

THE PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD HONORING AMERICANS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY VOLUNTEERING

Every day, millions of Americans volunteer, using their time, talents, and compassion to make a difference in the lives of others. By mentoring a child, caring for an elderly neighbor, teaching someone to read, or bringing food and clothes to those who need them, Americans are helping to foster a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility for generations to come. It is through these acts of kindness and decency that we are able to demonstrate the true character and compassion of our country.

Recognizing and honoring volunteers sets a standard for service to others. It encourages a sustained commitment to civic participation and inspires others to make volunteering a central part of their lives. The President's Volunteer Service Award is a Presidential recognition program for Americans of all ages, who contribute a significant amount of time to volunteer service. The program recognizes individuals, families, and groups that have achieved a certain standard - measured by the number of hours served over a 12-month period.

The President's Volunteer Service Award was created to recognize the tens of millions of Americans who have made a sustained commitment to volunteer service. The Award is given to individuals, families and groups that have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and civic participation over the course of a 12-month period.

For more information about how to earn the award, visit www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov or call 1-866-545-5307

AWARD ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

<u>Ages 5 to 14</u>	<u>Ages 15 to 25</u>
Bronze Award 50-74 hours	Bronze Award 100-174 hours
Silver Award 75-99 hours	Silver Award 174-249 hours
Gold Award 100 or more hours	Gold Award 250 or more hours

MORE WAYS TO CELEBRATE AND RECOGNIZE YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide certificates commemorating their service • Write a letter to the editor commending youth volunteers • Send affirmation letters to the school administrators and families • Provide letter jackets for service just as schools give letters for sports and music • Invite people who benefitted from the service to write letters to the youth volunteers • With teachers, sponsor special school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assemblies or breakfasts for the youth who serve • Make buttons or t-shirts the youth can wear to display their commitment to service • Establish a community wide scholarship or awards program for youth who serve • Submit student records for special awards and scholarships whenever possible <p><i>Taken from Celebration and Recognition of Youth Volunteers, developed by the Points of Light Foundation</i></p> |
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PRESIDENTIAL FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIPS

High schools may present a \$1,000 scholarship to two junior or senior students who have volunteered at least 100 hours of service in a 12-month period. Each scholarship receives \$500 from the Corporation for National Service and must be matched by the school or community organization. For more information visit www.nationalservice.org/scholarships/

UTAH'S TOP YOUTH VOLUNTEERS SELECTED IN NATIONAL AWARDS PROGRAM

Several students from Utah are among a select group of young Americans recently named as the nation's top youth volunteers for 2004, in the ninth annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

State Honorees

Jared Smith, 16
Centerville, UT
Nominated by Viewmont High School

Becca Robison, 12
Layton, UT
Nominated by Fairfield Junior High School

Distinguished Finalists

Brittany Baker, 18
West Jordan, UT
Nominated by Jordan High School

Tikla Brown, 14
Highland, UT
Nominated by Mountain Ridge Junior High

Anelicia Cheney-Campbell, 14
South Salt Lake, UT
Nominated by Granite High School

Erica Glenn, 17
Pleasant Grove, UT
Nominated by Pleasant Grove High School